

11th December 1923] [Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu]

will be at his service. There is, however, one remark which I should like to mention in this connexion. If, for any reason, he is not prepared or unable to place the Bill before the House as soon as possible . . .

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I expect, Mr. President, to place the Bill before the January session."

Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATAREDDI NAYUDU :—" I am glad of that, Sir. I would only add that if for any reason, on his own account or for reasons beyond his control, there should be any delay in the passing of the Bill, I would suggest, Sir, that a separate Bill might be brought for each of such schemes as this. In fact, in England, it is the practice that whenever a certain loan has to be given, or an industrial enterprise has to be financed, or any work has to be executed, a separate Bill is brought forward and passed. I do not mean to suggest that he should undertake such a step here at this juncture. But, if for any reason, the Bill is not to be placed before the House, or has to be delayed in its passage, I submit, Sir, that in order that this project may be executed without delay, a separate Bill may be undertaken and if that is not possible on behalf of Government, I hope that it will not resist any attempt made on the part of private Members to introduce a Bill of their own in order to have the project executed. With these words, I withdraw my Resolution, with the leave of the House."

The Resolution was by leave withdrawn.

COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER WATER-SUPPLY TO THE TOWN OF COIMBATORE.

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Sir, I beg to move—

3. *That this Council recommends to the Government that a Committee of officials and non-officials be appointed to report on the best way of introducing water-supply to the town of Coimbatore at an early date.*

" This proposition, Sir, is very simple. I am sorry to see that the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government is not here. In his absence, I wish that the hon. the Member in charge of Irrigation at least may hear me."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I assume no responsibility for hearing the speeches relating to subjects with which I have no concern."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I know, Sir, the hon. Member does not assume any such responsibility. But what I meant was that in the course of my speech some remarks might be found to be of use to the hon. the Law Member as concerning him."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I always find the hon. Member's remarks useful."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" And therefore it is, Sir, that I wish that he listens to me. I was going to say, Sir, that Coimbatore is one of the most important towns and yet it has been suffering the most for want of good water-supply. It is a fact admitted on all hands. It is a pitiful sight, Sir, for any one that is in Coimbatore to see ladies belonging to respectable families walking three or four furlongs to get a potful of fresh-water. Attempts are being made from year to year, decade to decade—shall I say century to century?—to get some good water-supply for the town of Coimbatore. If doctors differ according to the proverb, engineers seem to



[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [11th December 1923]

differ more so far as the water-supply of Coimbatore is concerned. Scheme after scheme once supposed to be best by one set of engineers is declared to be useless by another set. A scheme which is supposed to cost a few lakhs by one engineer is given up as very costly by another. Now, Sir, the Government have been tantalising us for long. About 15 years ago we were sure of water being brought to our doors and the municipality was asked to levy a tax. The tax was actually levied, and, in some parts of the town, taxes were actually collected for water-supply. But the Government, through their engineers probably, learnt that there was no water-supply available and the taxes collected had to be returned and the notices issued for collection had to be cancelled. The Reformed Council came in, and we were very hopeful when our own Minister took charge of the Local Self-Government Department. And what is more, to satisfy the curiosity of some of our friends, our mouths were actually watering when the hon. the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government came to Coimbatore immediately after he took charge of the portfolio, and at a grand meeting held at the Town Hall, made rather grand promises—I had the honour of translating his speech then—and gave very promising hopes to the townsmen. It was then said that the cost would be about 34 lakhs and the Government were prepared to make a grant of 17 lakhs and only the municipality had to make up their 17 lakhs. Engineers differed and so do mathematicians; and we also differed as to the rate at which the tax should be levied for the water-supply and for the purpose of meeting this loan of 17 lakhs. The hon. Minister promised in all solemnity that the matter would be deeply considered. There are one or two points which we have been urging from decade to decade—for this is the history of decades—that the Government are bound to pay a large sum of money out of these 34 lakhs.

11-45 a.m. “Whatever that may be, out of this water, they are going to supply their Agricultural College, their Forest College, their Police School, and their Central Jail which are anomalously inside the town, but outside the municipal limits. They have all the advantages of the municipality, but only they do not pay the taxes raised by the municipality and they want to have the benefits of this water for which we pay taxes. If we make a calculation of all these things, a large sum of money would have to be deducted out of this 34 lakhs. In the answer that the Government were pleased to give yesterday—that has been given by the hon. the Law Member probably—it is stated that there is a combined scheme of water-supply and irrigation. Therefore this scheme, which is supposed to supply water to Coimbatore, I am glad to know, is supposed to irrigate some of our lands, the nanja lands near the Coimbatore town which are suffering very much. The Government will therefore naturally get additional tax upon those lands for the irrigation facilities which they will obtain. That also has to be taken into consideration and I have no doubt whatever that the hon. the Law Member, who is always interested in hearing me, will, in consultation with the Minister for Local Self-Government, agree to a contribution on that account.

“But the most important point that is referred to in the answer given to-day is this: it is what is called centage allowance. If Government takes up a work or does something for us, they must get a large allowance. We appealed to the hon. Minister in charge of Local Self-Government to take this matter kindly into consideration and arrange that the Government should have no centage at all or at least should have a reduced centage. The hon. Member was pleased to say that the matter would be deeply considered.



11th December 1923] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

Three years are over and in to-day's answer we are told that the matter is still under consideration. We are dying for want of water, and the hon. Members, the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government and the Minister in charge of the establishment of the Engineering Department, who are sitting together opposite could talk a little and settle the matter. But unfortunately, Sir, we are under the impression—I hope it is not a correct impression—that there is a little difference of opinion between the Ministers. The Education Minister wanted to introduce compulsory education and therefore wanted to levy education cess, and we agreed. Then the Self-Government Minister came in and said 'water should have preference. You had better not have or postpone compulsory education. You must have water first!' We agreed, and we thought . . ."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Does the theory of the united Cabinet no longer hold good, Sir? The hon. Member is now referring to the individual Members of the Cabinet and the personal differences among them."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I said absolutely nothing with regard to their personal differences. I was only referring to their differences as Ministers, and I was stating facts. One Minister was certain of the desirability of compulsory education and the other Minister was equally certain of the desirability of introducing water-supply first. So, we agreed to give up the education cess and levy water-tax first. But this consultation among the various Members, the Law Member, the Ministers for Self-Government and Education has cost us about 8 or 10 lakhs in these three years."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am not aware of any such consultation, Sir, that cost the hon. Member 8 lakhs."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I beg his pardon if I have in any way wounded his feelings, Sir."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"Not at all, Sir. It is not a question of feelings, but it is a question of 8 lakhs."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"I said about consultation past or future (laughter). There must necessarily be consultation, because this water-supply scheme is necessarily affecting the irrigation scheme of the town."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I take it that the hon. Member apprehends that if the Members of the Government consult one another, there will be a loss of 8 lakhs (laughter). I do not quite understand his position."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"The loss may be probably more, Sir (laughter). There has been consultation only between the two Ministers, and that has cost us about 8 lakhs. But if there is to be further consultation with the Law Member, it may cost us more. In addition to that it has cost us already a delay of three years, and if there is further consultation it may cost us 30 years delay. Therefore, to prevent the possibility of the cost going up, I want that the matter should be expedited. In 1921, when the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government came to Coimbatore we were told that the cost would be 34 lakhs, but to-day we are told that the present estimate is about 44 lakhs, and we do not know what will be to-morrow's estimate. I was referring to the difference of opinion between the Ministers because it is probable that they have not yet decided which is more important, water-supply or education. Unfortunately water-supply also partly depends on the hon. Education Minister because he is in charge of the



[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [11th December 1923]

engineering establishment. Therefore unless the Ministers agree, there will be no end to these troubles. What I want to say is that at any cost we want water. Even the  $10\frac{1}{2}$  per cent which we were prepared to pay was too high. We are already paying 8 per cent for house-tax. This water-cess will be another  $10\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. We have already agreed to levy an education cess, and there seems no end to these taxes, and probably they will soon rise up to even cent per cent. We want to remove the possibility of our taxes being more than cent per cent. It is only with that object that I appeal to the hon. Members adorning the Treasury Benches to agree to this very modest Resolution of mine that a committee may be appointed to go into the whole question. If possible it would expedite this consultation between the Ministers and Members regarding the relative expediency of water-rate or education rate, and would facilitate some understanding between them being arrived at. Probably the hon. the Finance Member would also have to be consulted to see what contribution he has to pay for the water to be supplied to the various Government buildings mentioned by me which are enjoying the benefits of the municipality and yet are outside the municipal limits. I want that this committee proposed by me should go into all these things. I think all hopes of expecting any speedy water-supply at the hands of the Government are gone, and the only possibility is for a few non-officials and expert officials to form a committee and come to some understanding. We see that Coimbatore which is a very beautiful city, as has been admitted by many people, is being devastated by plague; that is only on account of want of water-supply and drainage. We have been crying for this water for years and years, decades and decades and even for centuries and centuries (hear, hear), and yet we have not been able to get it. So, I appeal to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to agree to this Resolution and have a committee by which all the difficulties which are said to be insurmountable can be considered. All the facts in connexion with this matter are personally known to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government, and I appeal to him to accept this proposition."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"Sir, I beg to second the Motion that has just been made. In doing so, I should really thank the hon. the Chief Minister for the answer which he has given to a question this morning with reference to this very matter. He has been pleased to indicate in his answer the difficulties that lie in the way of sanctioning this scheme. He says that the total cost comes to 44.2 lakhs and he expects the Municipality to contribute 22.1 lakhs. That is to say, he expects the Municipality to bear half the expenditure of the scheme. My hon. Friend who made this Motion has explained why this view of things should not be accepted. He has stated that the water scheme is going to help not only the town of Coimbatore but also several isolated places which are territorially within the municipal limits but technically outside them. Such places are the Jail, the Police Training School, the Agricultural College and the Forest College. It has been stated with regard to the Agricultural College and the Forest College that it is only portions of the big estates on which these lie that can be considered to be within the territorial limits of the Municipality, and that the other portions are only contiguous to it. So practically they are within the territorial limits and, but for the Government Orders which have been passed, are municipal area. So, if some allowance is going to be made for the contribution that has to be given for the supply of water to these estates



11th December 1923] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

which are technically outside the municipal limits and for which the Government are expected to supply water, the share that the municipality will have to bear will be considerably reduced. That is a question which can be settled only by a mixed committee. No doubt, the Government will claim that their share ought to be very low, whereas the municipality will always be prepared to say and maintain that since these estates do not pay even the ordinary municipal taxes, their share for the water scheme ought to be more.

"Secondly, Sir, the question of centage charges has been standing in the way of water-supply and drainage schemes of many other local institutions. I believe that several other institutions are suffering on account of the very heavy centage charges made by the Government. In this case the major portion of the estimates consists of pipes. Piping, if I remember aright, accounts for about 30 lakhs and odd out of the 44 lakhs. And for this piping, all the expenditure the Government will have to incur will be the percentage they will have to pay to the High Commissioner in England for making the purchases. That will probably be 5 per cent or so. After paying that 5 per cent or so to the High Commissioner who makes the purchases in England, the Government wants to make 30 per cent out of this estimate for being a sort of intermediary. That is practically taking away with one hand what they are going to give with the other. If the Government make a contribution of 50 per cent and take away in the name of centage this 30 per cent, all that the Government would be actually contributing will be only 20 per cent and not 50 per cent.

(At this stage the hon. the Deputy President took the Chair.)

"So this is a matter in which a committee will be of use in deciding the actual centage that the Government will have to charge. As I said before, not only the Coimbatore Municipality but a number of other bodies have been in the same position. So if a proper committee is appointed and it decides this question of centage, it will be a guiding principle to be followed in other cases also. So, in these two matters, in actually settling the contribution that will have to be borne by the Government for the supply of water to the Government buildings mentioned by me and for fixing these centage charges, a committee of officials and non-officials will be of use and will also be able to bring the scheme within the range of possibility. Otherwise, probably correspondence will go on and there will be no chance of a solution in the near future.

"Then, Sir, there is a third matter which has to be considered and it is this. If, after considering all these things, the municipality is not able to bear its share of the expenditure, what is to be done? That is a question which has also to be considered. Coimbatore has been waiting for her water-supply for several decades, not even years, and it is high time that something definite is done. If this particular scheme is too costly, and if after considering all the facts it is not found to be feasible, it will be necessary to pitch upon an alternative scheme. There have been several schemes considered already and one of these schemes came very near the sanctioning point. I believe there was a scheme for taking water from the Chitrachavadi channel by pumping, but it had been given up ultimately because objections were raised by wet ayacut holders that the water-supply would not be sufficient for irrigating their lands and also supplying the Coimbatore town, and that they would suffer if water was going to be taken away from the channel for supplying the Coimbatore town.



[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [11th December 1923]

“ Now, Sir, a new source of water-supply has been found in the Siruvani.  
 12 noon. If the head works are taken on hand and completed and if the water is dropped into the Noyel and taken from the Chitrachavadi channel itself, then I think that all the difficulties felt in the old days will disappear. Sufficient water will be available and the wet ayacut holders, instead of losing, will gain, because the water that will be dropped into the river will be very much more than that supplied to the Coimbatore town. If that is done, the cost of the piping will not have to be incurred. As I have already said, more than three-fourths of the estimates go for the piping. We may have an alternative scheme like that. Of course, there may be other schemes. So, if after considering these two questions, viz., the contributions to be paid by Government for their own institutions and the centage charges, the Committee comes to the conclusion that the scheme is not feasible, it will be up to them to consider the alternative scheme also. As I said, Sir, the matter has been hanging on for several decades, and we are very anxious to come to some definite conclusion in the matter. It seems to me that the proposal that has been put forward by my hon. Colleague from Coimbatore will go a long way towards an earlier solution of this long pending matter. So, I would request the hon. the Chief Minister to consider this point of view also and agree with me.”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ Mr. President, I need hardly say that I am in full sympathy with the object of the hon. the Mover's resolution. In fact, I have been trying my very best to expedite the execution of the scheme of water-supply to the Coimbatore town. More than one scheme has been examined and at last a scheme has been approved by the Sanitary and Engineering authorities. But there have been various difficulties connected with the execution of this scheme, and naturally, time is required to solve these difficulties. One of those difficulties is connected with the question of centage charges. A great deal has been said about the unfairness of these centage charges. It must be remembered that it is in accordance with the directions from the Government of India that these charges are levied. No doubt there is some force in my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar's complaint against high centage charges being levied from local bodies. Materials such as girders, etc., are purchased and the levy of centage charges on the purchase of the materials does not appear to me to be reasonable. All the same, Sir, the question of levying lower centage charges is not one which the Minister in charge of the Local Self-Government alone can settle. The question is under consideration by the concerned departments. I propose to have a conference of the parties concerned in the matter to which the representatives of the Coimbatore district in this Council, and other gentlemen interested in the matter, will be invited to give us the benefit of their advice. I may assure this hon. House that I am anxious to have the work taken in hand as early as possible. I am keen about Coimbatore getting water-supply, and if only my Friends will solve some of these difficulties at the proposed conference, I shall feel grateful to them.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ Sir, there has been a change in this House which was not visible in the last Council. Every Member in the Cabinet says ‘I am in full sympathy with everything that you want.’ That is a change that we have noticed now. But we want this ‘full sympathy’ to be translated into sympathy, not with the lip, but with action of the hand. These centage charges are really very curious. I am not going



11th December 1923] [Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar]

into that question at all now. Only I am sorry that the hon. the Chief Minister seems to have forgotten that at the time of the so-called conference and public meeting at Coimbatore, he said that he would try his best to reduce the centage charges so far as Coimbatore was concerned."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" May I rise to a point of personal explanation? We are trying if we cannot reduce the centage charge in the case of the Coimbatore water-supply schemes to the minimum extent, and the question is under consideration."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Exactly, Sir. But what I was going to say was that whereas he promised to try to have a reduction in the centage charges so far as Coimbatore was concerned, which should have been done as a special case at an early date, we see from the reply given this morning by the hon. the Minister in reply to a question that the matter of the centage for the whole Presidency is under consideration. That means a lot of correspondence with the Government of India, the Secretary of State and so on and so on."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, it is as a special case the question is being considered."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" I am very glad to hear that, Sir; only it did not find a place in this morning's reply. But whatever it may be, I yet fail to understand why the hon. Member should, apart from the question of prestige and privilege, object to a committee being formed. We know what a conference is. A conference means that the hon. the Minister must also be present at it. We know that his work is heavy, and he may not be able to devote as much time to this question as we may expect him to do. Moreover, the time at our disposal at the conference may not be quite sufficient. All that I ask for is for the appointment of a committee. The hon. Member may propose any member to the committee, officials, or non-officials, members from this side of the House, or that side, from inside or outside. We have no objection to have a committee specially appointed for this purpose to make a report with or without this consultation, so that we may be given an opportunity of discussing matters at once and come to some definite conclusion. Let us not be fed up with mere hopes. Let us be sure of one thing whether water-supply for Coimbatore is feasible or not. We want this committee only to consider matters and to advance matters. If the hon. Member is really interested in supplying the town of Coimbatore with water as early as possible—in the history of this Council among these Ministers 'early' may mean anything—all that I may say is that if he really desires that 'early' to be really early, then I appeal to him to agree to the appointment of this committee. After all, the recommendations of the committee are only advisory. The hon. Member may even then have the option of calling a conference which seems so much to his heart and then decide one way or the other. So there is absolutely no harm in having a committee. Let the committee consist of all possible experts and people interested in various matters, representing of course Members that may be on his side. So, I would appeal to him once more to reconsider the question and agree to a committee to be appointed by him. I do not generally mention the names of members to the committee that I want; I leave the members to be appointed by him. But I appeal to him again to agree to the committee



[Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar] [11th December 1923]

being appointed so that the matter may be decided at an early date. Coimbatore may perhaps be the worst sufferer, but the Coimbatore committee may propose some resolutions which may enable other towns also to get water easily. So I appeal to him once more to appoint the committee. This is one of the earliest objects in his ministerial position in this Council, and let it not be delayed with merely vain hopes."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Sir, I propose to have the conference some time in January. I do not think the constitution of a special committee would serve the purpose any the better. We have to negotiate with the other departments and we have to take the opinion of experts, and all these things would be much better done by having a conference in Madras and by inviting to that conference the representatives and those interested in the question so that we may have the benefit of their advice. I hope that will satisfy my hon. Friend."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I make a further appeal, Sir, to the hon. the Minister that if this conference does not come to any decision, as I am afraid it will not, by January, or February, he will appoint another committee."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It will be quite open to the hon. Member to ask for the appointment of a committee if the conference is not held in January."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" But, if the conference does not come to any conclusion within three months, then will the hon. the Minister appoint a committee? Under the rules I am afraid I cannot move a Resolution again for a year."

The Motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar demanded a poll which was taken with the following result :—

#### Ayes.

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|--|---|
| 1. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.    | 23. Rao Bahadur C. Gopala Menon.                |
| 2. " T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar.        | 24. Mr. C. Marudavanam Pillai.                  |
| 3. " A. S. Krishna Rao Pantulu.        | 25. Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao.                      |
| 4. " C. V. S. Narasimha Raju.          | 26. Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.                       |
| 5. Mr. P. Siva Rao.                    | 27. " P. C. Venkatapati Raju.                   |
| 6. " A. Chindambara Nadar.             | 28. " Venkatarama Ayyar alias V. Pantulu Ayyar. |
| 7. " K. Koti Reddi.                    | 29. " B. Venkataratnam.                         |
| 8. " J. Kuppuswami.                    | 30. " Abbas Ali Khan.                           |
| 9. " P. Anjaneyulu Pantulu.            | 31. " Haji Abdulla Sahib.                       |
| 10. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo.     | 32. " G. Abdulla Ghatala Sahib.                 |
| 11. Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar.         | 33. " Abdul Hye Sahib.                          |
| 12. Dr. P. Subbarayan.                 | 34. " V. Hamid Sultan Marakkayar.               |
| 13. Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu. | 35. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib.        |
| 14. Mr. P. Peddirazu.                  | 36. Mr. T. M. Moidoo Sahib.                     |
| 15. " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.         | 37. " Muhammd Moosa Sait Sahib.                 |
| 16. " J. A. Saldanha.                  | 38. " T. N. Bhava Ravuttar Muhammad Sahib.      |
| 17. " R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.           | 39. Khan Sahib Saiyid Diwan Abdul Razaaq Sahib. |
| 18. " Sami Venkatachala Chettiyar.     | 40. Mr. K. Uppi Sahib.                          |
| 19. " C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar.    | 41. " Janab Muhammad Yahya Ali Sahib.           |
| 20. " R. Veerian.                      |   |
| 21. " S. Satyamurti.                   |   |
| 22. " T. Adinarayana Chettiyar.        |   |



11th December 1923]

Noes.

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|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Mr. A. R. Knapp.                  | 24. Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu.                    |
| 2. „ „ C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.                 | 25. Rao Bahadur A. M. Murugappa Chettiyar.      |
| 3. „ „ the Raja of Panagal.                   | 26. Mr. C. Muttayya Mudaliyar.                  |
| 4. „ „ Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai. | 27. „ „ B. Obalesappa.                          |
| 5. Mr. R. W. Davies.                          | 28. „ „ K. S. Ponnuswami Pillai.                |
| 6. „ „ E. W. Legh.                            | 29. „ „ K. Raghuchandra Bellala.                |
| 7. „ „ G. F. Paddison.                        | 30. „ „ P. T. Rajan.                            |
| 8. „ „ H. Tireman.                            | 31. „ „ P. S. Rajappa.                          |
| 9. „ „ J. A. Davis.                           | 32. „ „ B. Ramachandra Reddi.                   |
| 10. „ „ C. Nicholson.                         | 33. Rao Bahadur P. Raman.                       |
| 11. S. R. Y. Ankinedu Prasad Bahadur.         | 34. Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.                 |
| 12. Mr. Ari Gowder.                           | 35. „ „ J. D. Samuel.                           |
| 13. „ „ P. K. S. A. Arumuga Nadar.            | 36. „ „ K. Sarvarayudu.                         |
| 14. „ „ A. V. Bhanoji Rao.                    | 37. „ „ R. Srinivasan.                          |
| 15. „ „ Devendrudu.                           | 38. Sir K. Venkatarreddi Nayudu.                |
| 16. Rao Bahadur P. C. Ethirajulu Nayudu.      | 39. Mr. P. V. S. Sundaramurti.                  |
| 17. Mr. P. V. Gopalan.                        | 40. Diwan Bahadur K. Suryanarayanamurti Nayudu. |
| 18. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar.          | 41. Rao Bahadur O. Tanikachala Chettiyar.       |
| 19. Rao Bahadur K. Krishnaswami Nayudu.       | 42. Mr. K. Venkatachala Padayachi.              |
| 20. The Raja of Kurupam.                      | 43. Rao Bahadur C. Venkataranga Reddi.          |
| 21. Hony. Lt. Madurai.                        | 44. Mr. M. Ratnaswami.                          |
| 22. Mr. T. Mallesappa.                        | 45. „ „ W. Vijayaraghava Mudaliyar.             |
| 23. „ „ P. N. Marthandam Pillai.              |   |

41 hon. Members voted *for* the motion, and 45 *against*.

The Motion was lost.

A COMMITTEE TO IMPROVE THE IRRIGATION FACILITIES IN THE  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

12-15 p.m. Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I beg to move,  
Sir, with much better hopes this time :

4. *That this Council recommends to the Government that a committee be appointed to report on the best ways and means that can be adopted to improve the irrigation facilities in the Coimbatore district without much cost to the Government.*

“ In this resolution also, I am asking only for the appointment of a committee, and I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to consider that committees might be of some use even to the hon. Members of the Cabinet. Some seem to think that apart from themselves or apart from some people under their guidance in the conference . . . . .”

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“ If this preface is intended for me, I at once disclaim all responsibility for the assumption that committees are useless.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ I thank the hon. Member, Sir. I was going to say that there are some members both honourable and otherwise (laughter),—I mean those Members of the Cabinet and those who are not—who seem to think that unless these things are put before a conference at the time of its deliberations, committees and such things are useless. But I am glad that the hon. the Law Member . . . . .”

The hon. the DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member shall omit all personal insinuations.”

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“ There is absolutely no personal insinuation, Sir. I referred to the opinions of officers which we are